

Second Update on Possible Oil Leak near U.S. Embassy Compound

December 13, 2002

The United States Embassy announces that at the advice of the Seoul Metropolitan Government, they have hired Eco Solutions, an environmental consulting and engineering firm, to conduct a site survey in order to determine the source of the oil contamination found adjacent to the Embassy's Namyong-Dong site. Eco Solutions has advised that a complete survey to determine the source of the leak and the extent of the contamination in accordance with Korean standards will take approximately 30 days. The results of the survey will be submitted to the Water Quality Division of the Seoul Metropolitan Government and the Policy Coordination Division of the Ministry of Environment as soon as they are available.

As stated in previous releases, the Embassy will take full responsibility for cleaning the area in accordance with relevant Korean government standards should tests indicate that we are responsible for any contamination. The land in question is the diplomatic property of the U.S. Embassy and is not SOFA-related property belonging to U.S. Forces Korea.